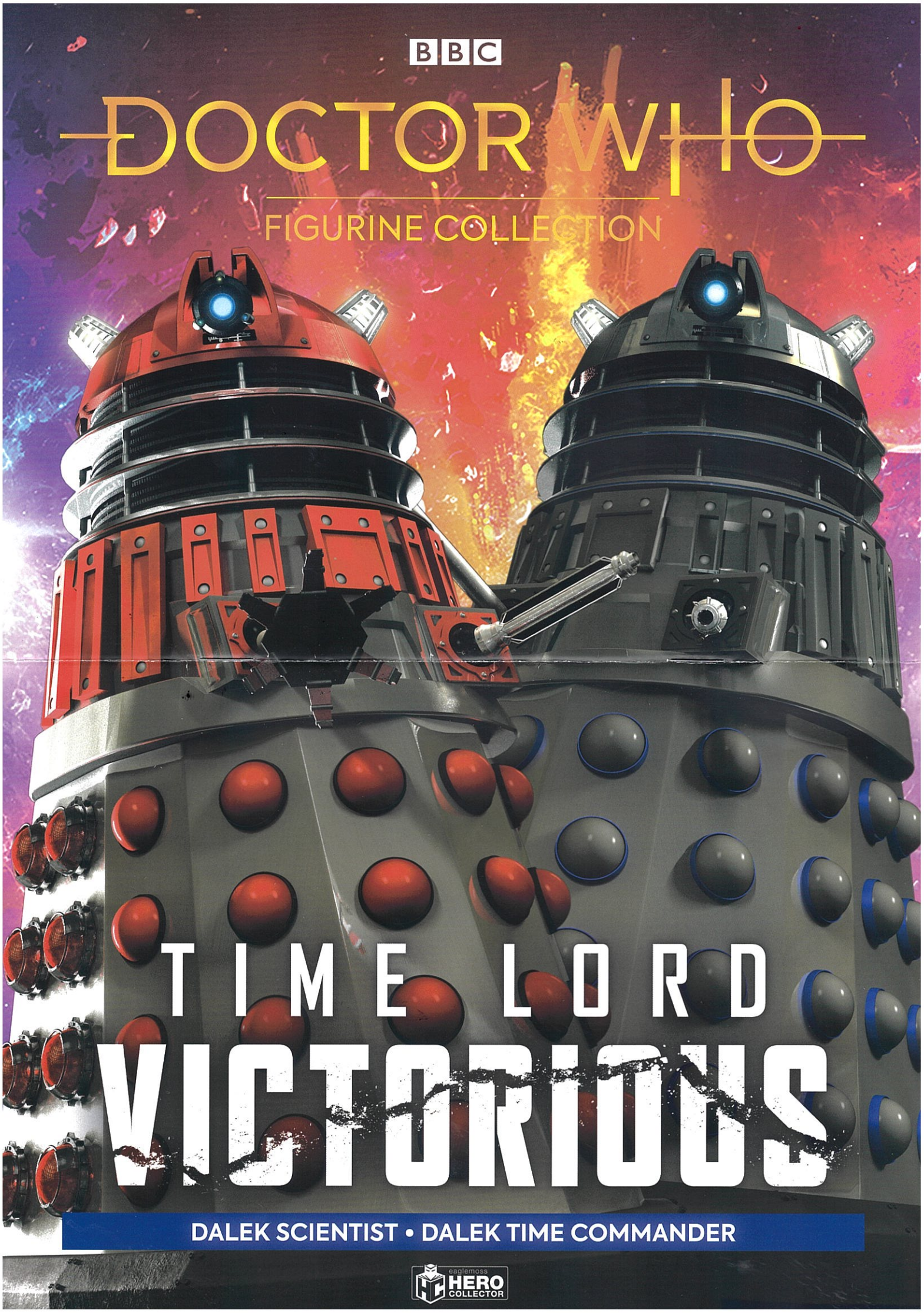
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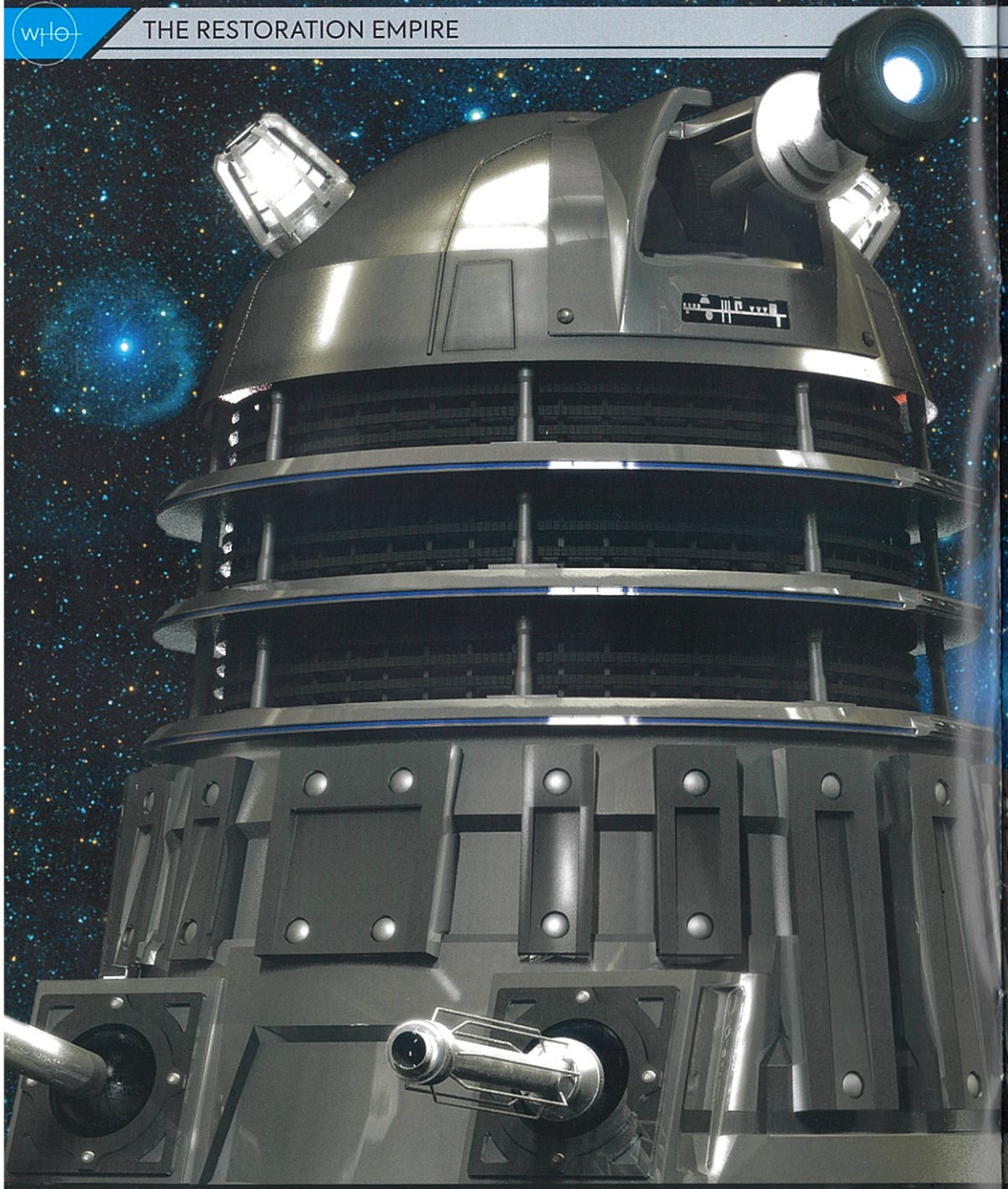

DALEK TIME COMMANDERS

In the Restoration Empire, with its simplified and more efficient hierarchy (translation – the Daleks were now deadlier than they had ever been), Dalek Commanders take orders from the Emperor alone. In charge of missions, the Commanders are the ultimate authority on any Dalek Saucer. With this responsibility comes accountability. If a mission is a failure, then so too is the Commander – and failure is worse than death! In any other culture the Commander's ruthlessness would be called "fear of failure", but the Daleks fear nothing… well, almost nothing.

When the Dalek Emperor realised established history was somehow being altered, and that whatever was causing the changes therefore threatened the Dalek Empire, it used its personal saucer to find out more.

The simplest way for a Dalek to discover anything is to invade, conquer and take what it needs, which is just what happened to the Archive of Islos. Overseeing this invasion were several Dalek Commanders.

Being pursued by an entity on Islos, the Commanders carried out the Emperor's orders to evacuate Skaro, and to salvage as much of the Dalek fleet as the could.

Events quickly conspired against the Daleks, but the Commanders remained steadfast, obeying orders from the Emperor and from the Dalek Strategist, to gather their remaining forces and reoccupy Skaro once the entity had been dealt with.

With the entity's master – the once-extinct Hond – invading Skaro, the Emperor ordered several Time Commanders to despatch squads to locate the Doctor in order for him to help defend the Dalek race. This was part of the Strategist's plan to find the cause of the disruption to time that had seen the inexplicable return of the Hond.

The Emperor then assembled a Dalek Time Squad. This squad was ordered to contain the anomalies by doing what a Dalek does best – exterminating them. Then the squad needed to capture an earlier incarnation of the Doctor. With this mission accomplished, the Dalek Time Commander had to convince the Doctor to travel back to the Dark Times – with the Daleks – to investigate the changes in history.

The Doctor and the Daleks working together… "Interesting," as the Emperor might say.

The Time Commander's main mission was to use the Doctor to identify and stop the source of the temporal anomalies. The Dalek Time Squad was given secondary missions, such as the harvesting of genetic material from previously extinct species. But travelling to the Dark Times gave the Daleks an irresistible opportunity: the chance to destroy Gallifrey before the Time Lords were even created!

"We shall continue the bombardment until they obey Dalek commands!"

Background: NASA/JPL-Caltech

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The first time audiences saw Daleks with command ranks – and different liveries – was in *The Dalek Invasion of Earth* (1964). The Saucer Commander was in charge of one of the ships that patrolled the conquered planet Earth, devastated after a decade of tyrannical Dalek rule.

They were responsible for policing invaded territories and, with Dalek efficiency, this was done with extermination squads or targeted bombardment. The Commanders also recruited Robomen by conducting intelligence tests on prisoners, knowing that the robotising process would eventually drive their victims insane and suicidal.

THE SAUCER COMMANDER

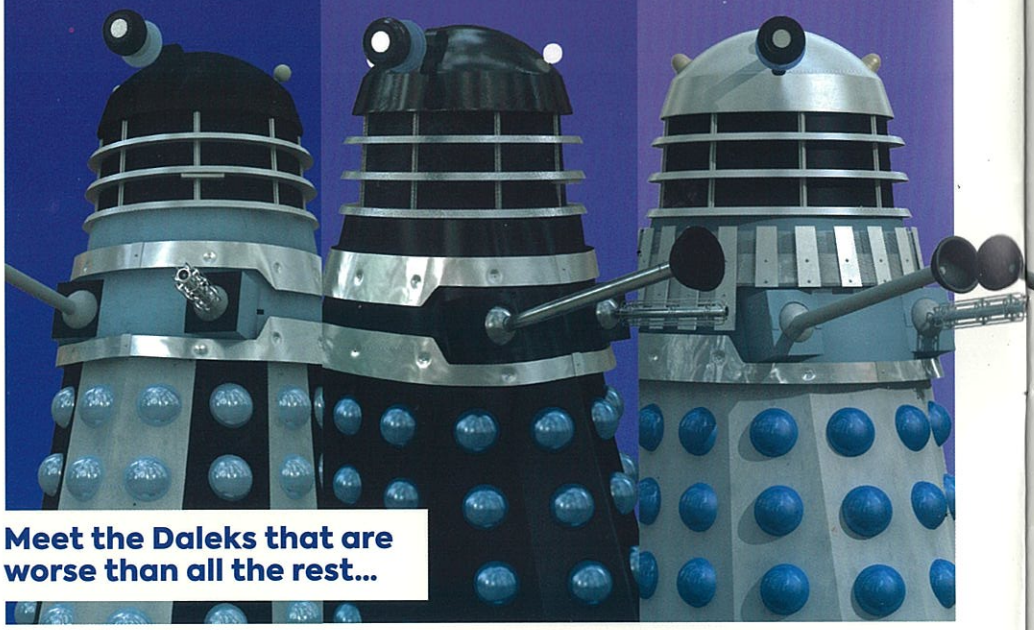
In the same adventure was this Black Dalek. In charge of Operation De-Gravitate, this Supreme Controller oversaw the vast mining complex in Bedfordshire. Here was the true purpose of the Daleks' invasion: to replace the core of our planet with a power system, enabling the Daleks to travel anywhere in the universe, conquering ever more worlds. Running the camp, it commanded the human slave workforce with minimal Dalek support and the mind-altered Robomen. The Black Dalek is the only Dalek to have a pet – the Slyther. This monster was allowed to roam the camp at night, eating unwary slaves.

SUPREME CONTROLLER

A Dalek assassination group featured in *The Chase* (1965) – and it had one specific target in mind: the Doctor!

The first thing the Daleks decided to do on completing their time machine (which was also bigger on the inside) was to hunt the Doctor and his friends to pay for their crimes of defeating the Daleks. The Group Commander led the mission to "pursue the humans through all eternity", with different ranks of Daleks (with specialisations and degrees of ability) reporting to it. A huge battle at a Mechonoid city led to this group's downfall – and the theft of their own time machine, which was also destroyed.

GROUP COMMANDER



Meet the Daleks that are worse than all the rest...

The first Black Dalek to call itself 'supreme' was the ultimate in cunning and patience, manipulating political events across several galaxies and over a period of decades. The Dalek Supreme had to deal with inferior species and to treat them as equals in the Intergalactic Delegation, while also overseeing the completion of a Time Destructor. It spent 50 years monitoring the mining and refining of a full 'emm' of taranium, which would power the Time Destructor. This Dalek commander's patience would have been rewarded with power over the entire universe – if only the Doctor hadn't turned up.

DALEK SUPREME

The first Emperor of the Daleks seen on television – in *The Evil of the Daleks* (1967) – was fitted without weaponry, and placed at the heart of the Dalek city on Skaro. While immobile, the Emperor was no slouch in the personal protection stakes. The story introduced the Imperial Guard, a command rank of fully armoured and armed Daleks that served and protected the Emperor by protecting, and disseminated its commands throughout Skaro. A similar version of this command rank, with standard Drone casing with a black dome, also protected the Emperor in *The Parting of the Ways* (2005), as seen here.

IMPERIAL GUARD

The three Daleks who ruled the devastated Earth of an alternative 22nd century was led by this impressive commander, in *Day of the Daleks* (1972).

Taking advantage of a change in established history, the Daleks invaded Earth again. With only a minimal invasion force available after the civil war, the Daleks used the brutal Ogrons and collaborating humans to maintain order. If the humans' leader, the Controller, hadn't insisted, the Daleks would have exterminated the Doctor. Instead, the Daleks' greatest enemy solved the paradox that led to the creation of this parallel future, and time was set on its correct path.

THE GOLD DALEK

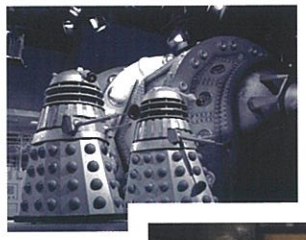
THE COMMANDERS

Artwork: Gavin Rymill

HOW DALEKS DISCOVERED TIME TRAVEL

The Daleks learned of time travel from the Doctor in *The Daleks* (1963-64), and vowed to understand the "philosophy of movement" of his ship. They soon had their own dimensionally transcendental time machine in *The Chase* (1965), which was a huge feat of reverse-engineering, considering the Daleks had only the Doctor's and Susan's description of the TARDIS to go on, as well as a mercury fluid link.

DALEK TIME CORRIDORS

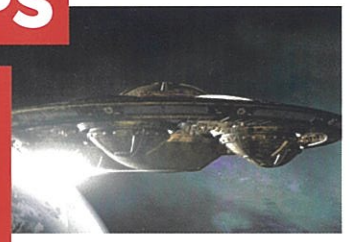


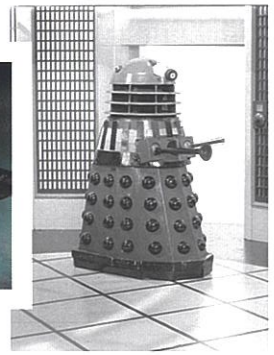
Daleks used time corridors in *The Evil of the Daleks* (1967), where Skaro, Maxtible's 19th-century laboratory and a 20th-century antique shop were linked. After Skaro fell, some Daleks used them to flee the civil war, with deleted dialogue from *Day of the Daleks* (1972) explaining the Daleks re-invaded Earth using time corridors. The Daleks' ship in *The Power of the Daleks* (1967) was perhaps another refugee: their ship was bigger on the inside, and the Daleks vowed to create "a new race of Daleks".

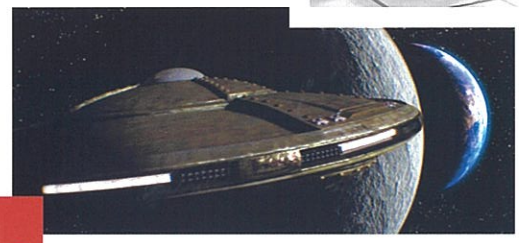
Background: NASA/JPL-Caltech

TIME SHIPS

Resurrection of the Daleks (1984), saw a time corridor link present-day London link to a Dalek ship in the 46th century. Such corridors were the usual method of transit in the Time War, with a surviving Dalek saucer opening one in order to escape in *Victory of the Daleks* (2010). The Daleks' time tech helped locate the TARDIS crew in *Asylum of the Daleks* (2012) and *The Magician's Apprentice* (2015).

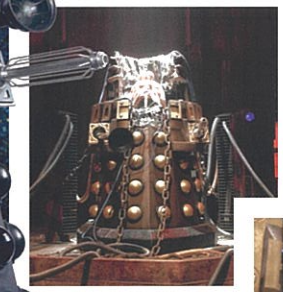


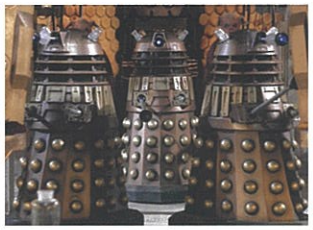




TEMPORAL SHIFTS

There were certain Daleks who had time-travel technology built into their casings. The most famous example is the Cult of Skaro, the four Daleks not even answerable to the Emperor. They engaged an Emergency Temporal Shift to escape the Battle of Canary Wharf in *Doomsday* (2006), and Dalek Caan used another at the end of *Daleks In Manhattan* (2007), driving itself mad in order to re-enter the Last Great Time War and rescue Davros.





SCIENTISTS OF THE RESTORATION

For the Daleks, knowledge is power!

Daleks seek information in the same way that they want to wipe out all life that isn't Dalek. Knowledge is something to conquer, and something that rightfully belongs to them. There is no such thing as too much information to a Dalek, and their casings have been adapted to absorb as much data as can be contained.

As such, all Daleks are scientists, but Drones only need knowledge if it can be weaponised. In the Restoration Empire, Scientist became another rank. Ultimately, these Daleks gathered knowledge to use it as part of their arsenal in their never-ending war against the cosmos.

Under orders from the Dalek Emperor, who was aware that the accepted history of the universe was being disrupted, Dalek Scientists worked every single rel in order to detect and isolate the time anomalies.

The Dalek Strategist, that strange remnant of an old Dalek order and who worked closely with the Emperor, became involved in the Scientists' investigations. Examining their reports, the Strategist was shocked to realise that there was a chance that the Restoration Empire was itself a product of these temporal anomalies. This unwanted science was as close to heresy as a Dalek could contemplate. The Dalek Strategist took care to ensure this notion was kept to itself.

As the Emperor sought to contain the anomalies, a Dalek Time Squad was sent out to locate the divergences and exterminate them. First, the Dalek Scientists were ordered to harvest and assess any useful information from anomalous worlds and races. For instance, on the planet Wrax, the Daleks sought access to the Devolving Technology that the population had invented. While the Doctor sought to wipe it out, a Dalek Scientist worked with the Dalek Executioner to investigate and use the technology for their own purposes.

"Rangerscopes report the Entity is already in Skaro's atmosphere!"

When voyaging into the Dark Times with the Doctor, the Dalek Scientist on board continued to follow its orders, harvesting and investigating genetic material and information from species that were otherwise extinct or had never previously existed. It collected several living specimens and worked to devise the ultimate protection against death: a Symbiont that would combine cellular information from the Great Vampires into the Dalek's DNA.

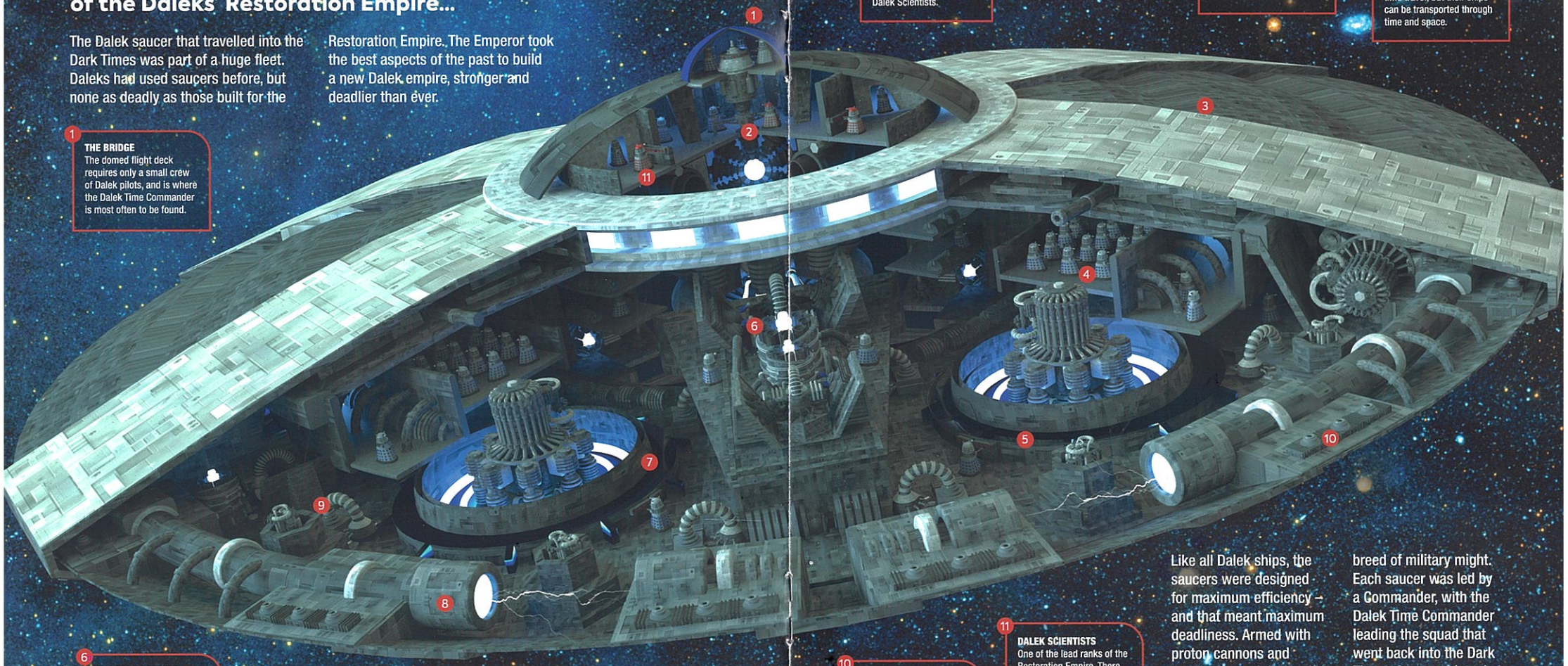
Curious, experimental and in some ways innovative, Dalek Scientists are, above everything, pragmatic. They simply seek to enhance the sum of Dalek knowledge and to increase the resilience of the Dalek species, all to ensure the total eradication of inferior forms of life.

Background: NASA/JPL-Caltech

DALEK SAUCERS

The ships that make up the vanguard of the Daleks' Restoration Empire...

The Dalek saucer that travelled into the Dark Times was part of a huge fleet. Daleks had used saucers before, but none as deadly as those built for the Restoration Empire. The Emperor took the best aspects of the past to build a new Dalek empire, stronger and deadlier than ever.



1 THE BRIDGE
The domed flight deck requires only a small crew of Dalek pilots, and is where the Dalek Time Commander is most often to be found.

2 DRIVE CHAMBER
Dalek engineers maintain the ship's core power reactor from this chamber, constantly monitored by Dalek Scientists.

3 DALEKANIUM HULL
This impenetrable metal shell is forged from spaceship-grade bonded poly-carbide, and reinforced with disintegrator shields.

4 INVASION FORCE
Each Dalek saucer contains a small army of dormant Daleks. They can be woken in an instant, ready to descend and attack.

5 PROPULSION UNIT
The Daleks may envy the Time Lords' knowledge of time travel, but their ships can be transported through time and space.

6 THE CORE REACTOR
The heart of every saucer. If the power contained within the reactor was unleashed, it would be similar to the detonation of a small star.

7 PLUGGED-IN DALEKS
The Daleks constantly monitor the propulsion units. They are plugged into the saucer's systems and become part of the ship.

8 DRIVE CARBINE
This anti-gravity propulsion unit gives the Dalek Saucers their immense speed when flying through planetary atmospheres.

9 VIRAL WEAPONS CACHE
Securely contained within these unusual (and unguarded) containers are deadly bacteriological warfare devices.

10 EXHAUST CHAMBERS
Not every bit of energy created by the core reactor is used, and waste energy and waste materials is expunged here.

11 DALEK SCIENTISTS
One of the lead ranks of the Restoration Empire. There are fewer of them, but they wield much more power in this new empire.

Like all Dalek ships, the saucers were designed for maximum efficiency – and that meant maximum deadliness. Armed with proton cannons and missiles containing both fisison warheads and deadly bacteriological agents, the craft were almost unstoppable, drawing on the best elements of past Dalek empires to create a new breed of military might. Each saucer was led by a Commander, with the Dalek Time Commander leading the squad that went back into the Dark Times. Answerable only to the Emperor Dalek – with the Dalek Executioner waiting in the shadows – the Dalek Commander led a task force capable of subjugating entire planets in no time at all.

With thanks to: The *Doctor Who DVD Files* Artwork: Gavin Rymill Background image: © NASA/JPL-Caltech

DALEK SCIENCE

Science has always been at the heart of the Dalek creed. In *Genesis of the Daleks* (1975) we met Davros, who was the both the creator of the Daleks and their greatest scientist. Crippled during the millennia-long Kaled-Thal War, Davros realised that mutation of the Kaled race was inevitable. He sought to control this mutation, and contained the resulting creatures in travel machines that he named "the Dalek".

Davros was also responsible for programming and conditioning the mutations, removing non-Dalek concepts from their vocabulary banks, increasing their hatred and aggression – but leaving a passion for science at their core.

Dalek science is logical but it's also limited in innovation. The Dalek-Movellan War saw the Daleks needing radical progress in their programming and genetic code. Instead of doing this themselves, the Daleks rescued and revived Davros twice, in *Destiny of the Daleks* (1979) and *Resurrection of the Daleks* (1984).

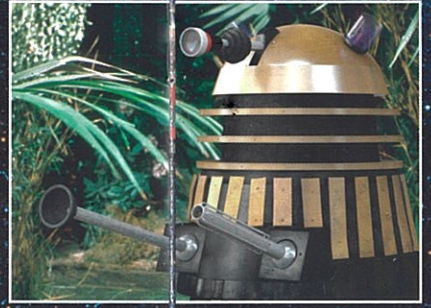
THIS IS (ONLY) THE BEGINNING

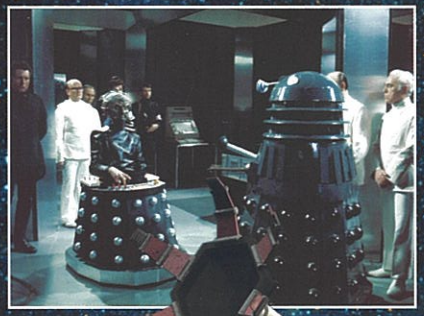
Their first story, *The Daleks* (1963-64), sees the Daleks as they were at the end of the Kaled-Thal War (without any intervention from the Time Lords in their timeline). These Daleks were a race of paranoid but insular scientists, trapped in their city on Skaro. Their experiments sought to free them from the confines of their travel machines and return to a normal life.

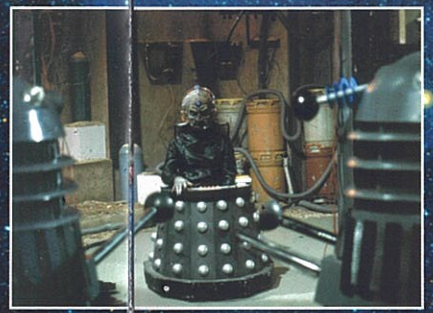
The Doctor's arrival changed all that. The Daleks discovered escape from their casings was impossible and they realised – thanks to the Doctor – that alien life existed and that time travel was possible. The Daleks re-prioritised their science into escaping from their city and the conquest of both space and time.

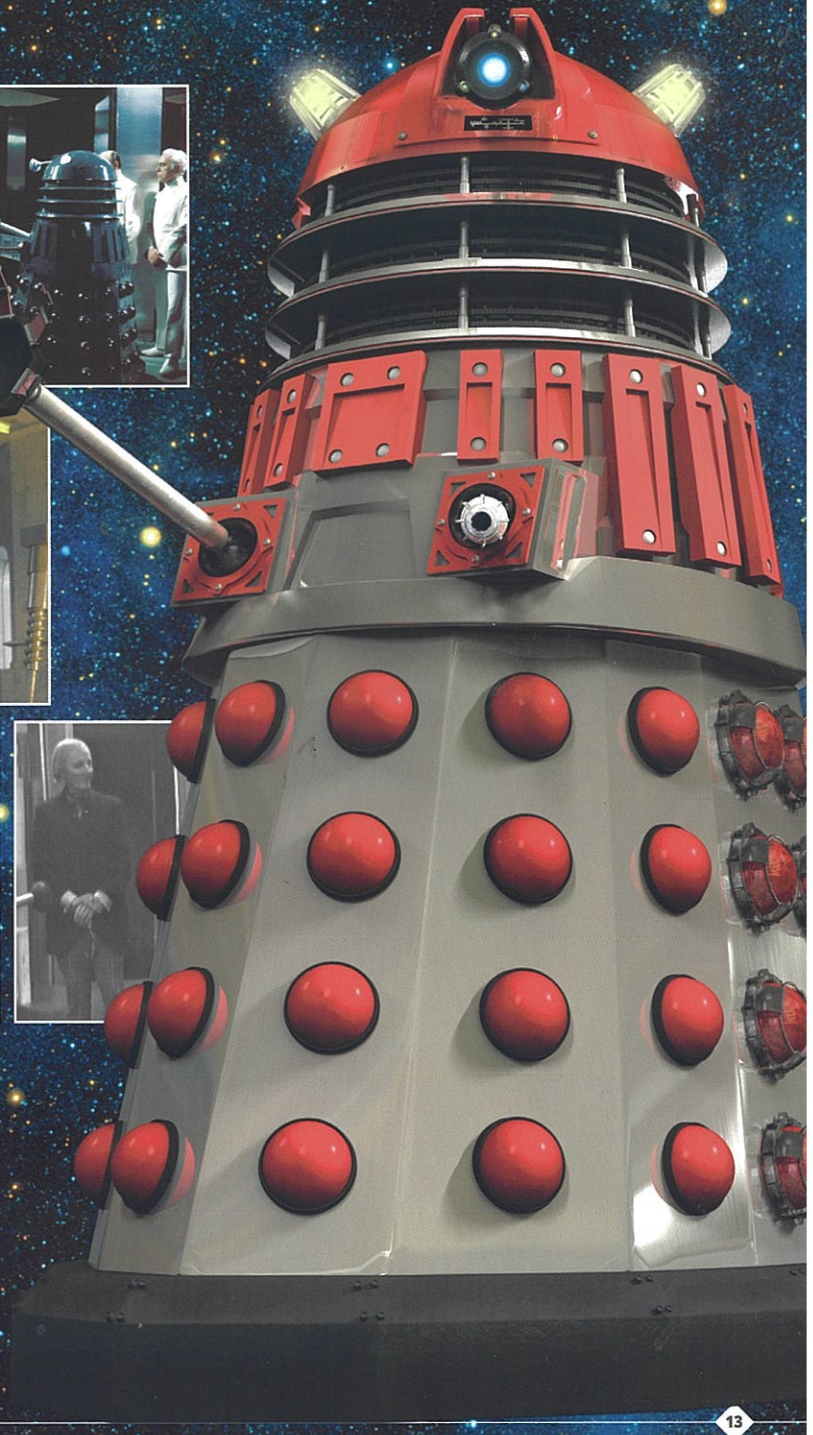
The Daleks' next appearance, in *The Dalek Invasion of Earth* (1964), sees one of their most ambitious science projects: Operation De-Gravitate. This sought to drill through the Earth's core, to be replaced by a giant engine that would be used "to pilot the planet anywhere in the known universe".

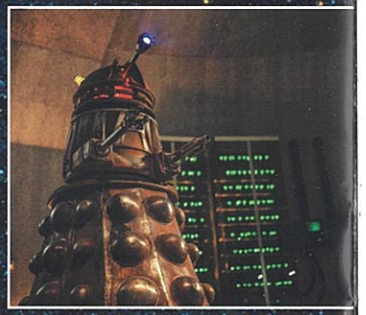
We eventually learned in *The Stolen Earth* (2008) the full scope of this scheme: the Daleks were stealing planetary bodies and relocating them to the Medusa Cascade in order to create a Reality Bomb. *The Chase* (1965) displays another











marvel of Dalek science – the ability to create duplicates of people that are indistinguishable from the original – and this marvel is returned to later in a scheme to assassinate the Time Lord High Council in *Resurrection of the Daleks* (1984)

EXPERIMENTS OF THE DALEKS

In *The Evil of the Daleks* (1967) the Daleks claim to want to understand the Human Factor, that elusive element that allows human beings to defeat them. Dalek scientists (working with Theodore Maxtible, Edward Waterfield and the Doctor) conduct experiments in and succeed in isolating this factor. The Emperor had no interest in the Human Factor itself, however, and planned to use it as the basis to derive the Dalek Factor, which it would then disseminate through Earth's history.

In *Planet of the Daleks* (1973), the Dalek operation on Spiridon was multi-faceted. Not only did the Daleks maintain a frozen army of 10,000 Daleks in readiness to fight a space war, but they also conducted experiments on the locals. One project sought to harness the Spiridons' natural invisibility, while another was to design bacteria capable of wiping the Spiridons out! It's easy to infer from this that Daleks occupation strategy is to harvest whatever the local population has to offer them genetically and then exterminate them.

In *Bad Wolf/The Parting of the Ways* (2005) the Emperor had conducted long-term harvesting of Earth's population, sifting through human genetic material to create a race of "pure and blessed" Daleks. In *Evolution of the Daleks* (2007) the Cult of Skaro worked on a project with a similar goal: ensuring the future of the Dalek race through genetic experimentation on the local population. Their first step was the creation of Pig Slaves, followed by placing the Dalek Factor in human test subjects, before using Dalek Sec to create a Dalek-Human hybrid – which was a heretical step too far for the rest of the Cult of Skaro.

Resolution (2019) reminds us that the Daleks are always scientists driven by a need to survive. The lone mutant is able to infect a member of the local population and use it to build a new travel machine for itself. Universes may have come and gone; but the Daleks remain the same as when Davros first created them.

Background image: © NASA/JPL-Caltech

Artwork: Dave Ladkin and Andrew-Mark Thompson

MISSION TO THE KNOWN

"No! No! Please, no!"

The Time Commander paid no attention to the screams. Those screaming always said the same thing. Lesser life-forms, the Commander knew, were illogical. Such creatures never considered or ever realised their experiences with the Daleks should have taught them two facts: Daleks don't listen to pleas for mercy and they don't change their minds.

The Commander watched as the specimen was loaded into an environment tank, then hosed with cryogenic gases. There were methods of preserving samples that were quick and painless, but Daleks considered them wasteful.

It continued to watch the creature's brief struggle with something close to satisfaction. To any non-Dalek onlooker, it would seem as if the Commander was dispassionate, observing without feeling. Within the casing, however, the mutant was… glad. The best thing about any and all other species was the way in which they died. Even though this life-form was entering total suspended animation, it was doing so by drowning in ice.

The Dalek Scientist smoothly disconnected its unusual manipulator arm from a control bank, turning smoothly to join its Commander. "Species identified as Fellonian. In our timeline, it is extinct. Preliminary scans of its brain activity suggest the species is telepathic. Its suffering is experienced by the rest of its species."

"An ability worthy of further examination," the Dalek Time Commander replied.

There was a slight pause. The Dalek Scientist had fully intended to investigate further. "Agreed," it grated, slowly.

The Dalek Commander was not done. "Extract and weaponise," it ordered, then turned away.

There was a second short pause.

"I obey."

The Dalek Time Commander left the laboratory, gliding along the corridors of the Dalek Time Saucer at a speed dutifully ignored by the Drones it passed. The Dalek

Time Commander's ship was travelling through the Dark Times, having made their way there with the reluctant help of their greatest enemy, the Doctor.

The order, direct from the Dalek Emperor, had been to wipe out a temporal divergence at its source. Unable to do this, the Daleks' back-up plan had seen the Doctor leave their ship in disgust, and, in a move the Daleks did not understand, left his TARDIS behind. This meant there was a way back for the Daleks. So, they harvested the bodies of ancient life-forms, sifting through their genetic material that might enhance the Dalek race.

There was one further reason.

The Commander arrived at a chamber that only one other Dalek on the ship had access to. Mildly irritated at itself for pausing before activating the door, the Commander entered. The Dalek Executioner was waiting. The Commander spoke.

"The scientific operation is a success," it announced in sharp Dalek tones, adding, "Harvest of life-forms is satisfactory."

The Dalek Executioner turned its eyestalk towards the Commander but not its casing. There was something solid yet unsettling about the Executioner. The most unsettling thing to a Dalek Commander was that, if its leadership failed, the last gun that would be aimed at them would be the Executioner's. It was a fact every Commander knew.

The Dalek Executioner continued to say nothing, but turned its eyestalk back to a console, the Commander noted, it was plugged into. The Commander joined it.

Once also connected, a large visi-screen above them flickered into life. With seconds, the golden figure of the Emperor appeared.

"This message has been recorded in case of your failure," the Emperor boomed, although no other Dalek on the saucer would hear their leader or have access to this message. "It assumes you have failed to prevent the damage to our timeline. It assumes you have failed to prevent the Doctor from betrayal."

The Emperor stopped speaking. No one spoke. The Dalek Commander heard the Executioner's gun-stick targeting its casing. There was a slight rise in a pitch that no ordinary ears could hear. Its weapon was powering up and being aimed in readiness for the Emperor's next words.

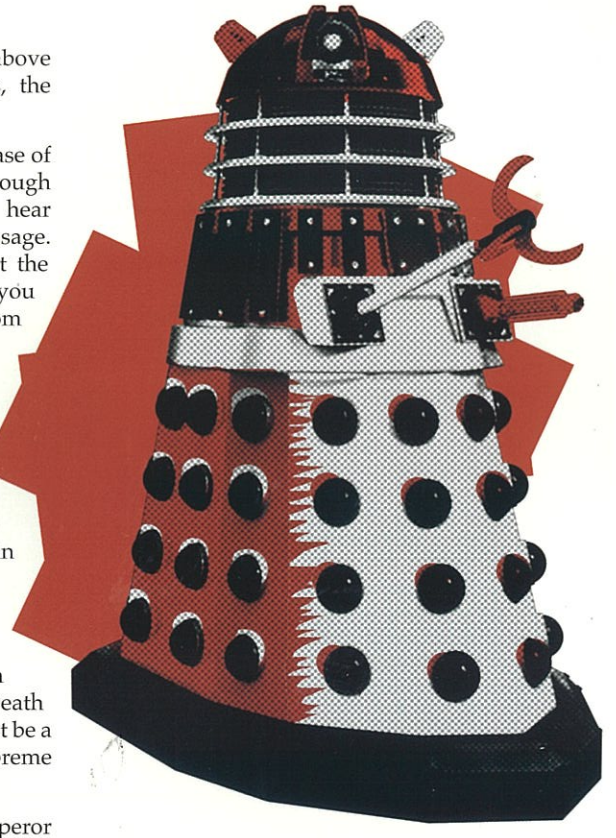
The Commander recalled the creature it had witnessed and it cries for mercy. Daleks accepted execution with only fury at their own failure. Death was preferable. Failure meant it could not be a superior being, and Daleks were the supreme beings in the universe.

"Given your failure," the Emperor continued, "I now issue you with new orders."

As Daleks are not programmed to express surprise, both Daleks remained steadfastly plugged into the console.

"While collection of specimens remains useful to the Daleks, your presence in the Dark Times must be used to maximum advantage to the Dalek race."

The Time Commander wondered – in a flash and it was deleted by its core processor – why it was still functioning and why it had not been executed. It swivelled its eyestalk towards the Executioner, and then returned it to stare at the screen.



"The barrier around the Dark Times has never been penetrated by the Daleks," the Emperor continued, sounding annoyed by this unfortunate aspect of Dalek technology. The annoyance had doubtless resulted in the extermination of platoons of Scientists. "Your presence in the Dark Times provides the Empire with an opportunity to secure the eternal victory of the Daleks."

The Commander and the Executioner focused on the image of the Emperor, which was pulled back as coordinates appeared below it on the screen, along with a new image of a slowly spinning planet.

"This is the home planet of the Time Lords," the Emperor announced. "Gallifrey."

The Daleks continued to stare at their leader. The mutants within both poly-carbide shells hardly dare move.

"I foresee a time when they will unite all life-forms," the Emperor shouted, growing ever louder the longer it went on. "They will seek to become the dominant creatures in the universe. They will do this by trying to destroy the Daleks! They will fail!"

A pause, and when it next spoke the Emperor's voice was quiet, but its words were deafening.

"You are ordered to return to Gallifrey at a point in time before the Time Lords evolve. I order you to avert their creation by destroying Gallifrey. The ultimate end."

The message ended but the Emperor's image remained on-screen. The Commander regarded it with excitement. It could hear phantom clicks coming from inside the Executioner's casing as the creature within cradled the trigger of its gun-stick. Both were, in different ways, excited by what the Emperor had ordered. The mission was audacious. The mission must succeed. The mission demanded absolute loyalty.

There was only one thing the Commander could say.

"I obey."

DALEK SCIENTIST

The Daleks' thirst for knowledge is one of this monstrous race's defining characteristics, but that every Dalek is a scientist is often overlooked. The Daleks do not use science for the betterment of their species. They use it as a weapon. They want to learn all they can so they can exploit their knowledge and use it to destroy their enemies in their never-ending plan to conquer the universe!

Dalek Scientists of the Restoration Empire are channels for knowledge. They are focal points through which the Dalek Empire is then able to strike terror and chaos across the entire cosmos…

DALEK TIME COMMANDER

One Dalek of this rank led a squad of Daleks into the Dark Times. An era previously forbidden to every race except the Time Lords, and deep into the past of the known universe, the Emperor of the Daleks issued orders that the Dalek Time Commander should uncover what was causing disturbances through time. Not only that, the Time Commander was ordered to use this opportunity to find Gallifrey, and calculate if the Daleks could stop the rise of the Time Lords before they had even begun…

But the Commander's mission was going to be far stranger and more dangerous than anyone realised…

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